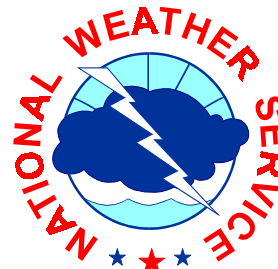


# NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE WESTERN REGION SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH



AUGUST 13, 2002

## DEPUTY REGIONAL DIRECTOR

**Cannon Beach Becomes Oregon's First "TsunamiReady" Community:** The National Weather Service (NWS) honored Cannon Beach Fire District and presented local officials with a dual designation citing the area as "StormReady" and Oregon's first "TsunamiReady" community on August 12. Local fire district officials have met the criteria to join in a national program administered by the National Weather Service that helps local emergency management officials prepare their cities or counties before severe weather threatens the area. If a large tsunami wave or other dangerous weather is headed for the area, the people who live, work or vacation along the northern Oregon coastal area will be more knowledgeable and better prepared to handle these situations.



L to R: Steve Todd, MIC WFO Portland, presents the TsunamiReady sign to Laurel Hood, Cannon Beach Mayor.

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L to R: Laurel Hood, Cannon Beach Mayor, Steve Todd, MIC WFO Portland, Cleve Rooper, Fire Chief Cannon Beach Fire District, and Al Aya, President, Cannon Beach Fire District Board of Directors.

of the Cannon Beach Fire District were presented with two special road signs that local officials will soon place on Highway 101 near the community entrances. The event honored the community of Cannon Beach and the unincorporated communities of Falcon Cove and Arch Cape. More than 400 communities nationwide have been named "StormReady." Cannon Beach becomes the nation's fifth Tsunami Ready community.

**Lead Forecaster Workshop:** The Lead Forecaster Workshop is being held this week in Salt Lake City. Each office, including the RFCs, have sent one representative. This is the third Lead Forecaster Workshop held in Western Region. The purpose of the workshop is to acquaint Lead Forecasters or Senior Hydrologists with the role they serve in the WFO or RFC. The first day of the program was devoted to training by Warren Blank who has written several books on leadership and has been a consultant to both government and private industry. The remainder of the week will deal with media training, IFPS, the National Verification Program, and labor relations.

## **METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES DIVISION**

**STATEMENT OF THE WEEK:** This week's statement of the week is a Hazardous Weather Outlook (HWO) written by SOO Dave Bernhardt of WFO Great Falls, MT. The HWO provided an excellent "heads-up" to a rather extensive outbreak of severe weather later in the day. The HWO was issued a full six hours prior to the first event. All in all, 11 severe thunderstorm warnings and three tornado warnings were issued. Fourteen reports of severe weather were noted, which included a report of 4-inch diameter hail. Good work Dave and WFO Great Falls.

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SPSTFX  
MTZ008>015-044>055-052245-

HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE GREAT FALLS MT  
1043 AM MDT MON AUG 5 2002

...SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS POSSIBLE THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENINGS...

MOIST AND UNSTABLE SOUTHWEST FLOW ALOFT OVER MONTANA...ALONG WITH AN UPPER LEVEL DISTURBANCE WILL TOUCH OFF SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS AGAIN TODAY. THE GREATEST THREAT FOR SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS WILL BE LATE THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING ROUGHLY EAST OF A GREAT FALLS...CHESTER LINE. SOME THE STORMS MAY PRODUCE DAMAGING WINDS...LARGE HAIL AND HEAVY RAIN.

THUNDERSTORMS WILL DEVELOP OVER SOUTHWEST MONTANA DURING THE EARLY AFTERNOON...THEN MOVE INTO CENTRAL MONTANA DURING THE REST OF THE AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

STAY TUNED TO WEATHER RADIO AND OTHER LOCAL MEDIA FOR FURTHER DETAILS OR UPDATES.

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## HYDROLOGY AND CLIMATE SERVICES DIVISION

**Workshops Held at Western Region RFCs:** Workshops covering Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS) and Ensemble Streamflow Prediction (ESP) have been held at the CBRFC (June 26 and 27) and the NWRFC (August 7 and 8). The workshops are intended to provide WFO Hydrologic Program Managers (HPMs) with background information on the AHPS program and ESP forecasts. Topics discussed include an overview of AHPS, the WFO role in AHPS, an overview of probability as it related to hydrologic forecasting, how ESP forecasts are made, and how ESP forecasts may be utilized.

The workshops have also provided a forum for the HPMs to discuss items of mutual interest with RFC forecasters and management. Items such as data utilization and sharing, RFC forecasting procedures, new services, and RFC support capabilities were discussed at the workshops. A similar workshop is scheduled for the CNRFC September 4 and 5.

## SCIENTIFIC SERVICES DIVISION

**Western Region Storm Verification Team:** The Western Region Scientific Services Division has put together a Storm Verification Team to suggest ways to improve the Region's POD, CSI, and Lead Time scores for Winter Storms and High Wind Warnings. This is in response to an action item from June's MIC/HIC Workshop and the need to reach our assigned GPRA (Government Performance Results Act of 1993) goals between FY03 and FY07. Team members are Mark Mollner (SSD), Craig Schmidt (MSD), Rick Dittman (TFX), Jim Reynolds (MFR), Dan Gudgel (HNX), Les Colin (BOI), Ira Kosovitz (PQR), and Tom Humphrey (BYZ). The team plans to issue its first report in October 2002.

## SYSTEMS OPERATIONS DIVISION

**AWIPS Upgrade Status:** All Western Region offices have installed AWIPS Release 5.2.1. Offices are in the process of installing 5.2.1.1, 5.2.1.2, and the ORPG LAN-to-AWIPS LAN interface. The latter allows WSR-88D archive level III data to be transmitted to the NCF via the AWIPS WAN.

**AWIPS Linux Pre-processor:** AWIPS Linux pre-processors (PXs) were installed at WRH the week of July 28. The installation and failover testing went smoothly with one exception. Some data sets previously stored on the AWIPS DS are now stored on the PX. Non-AWIPS applications or servers that require access to these data sets will need to be reconfigured.

**NOAA Weather Radio:** Two new USDA NWR installations at Poplar and Circle, Montana, are being installed this week. The Mount Wilson NWR transmitter is planned for relocation to Mount Lukens, CA, in September. The new location will increase NWR coverage to the area now serviced by the Mount Wilson transmitter.

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**HANDAR 555 Training**: Western Region Headquarters is hosting a HANDAR 555 training class at WRH this week for Staff for many Western Region field offices. Training is being provided by the manufacturer.